

**FINAL**



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 14, 2009**

**PRESENT:** TOM CLOW, CHAIRMAN; HELEEN KURK, SELECTMAN; RICHARD W. BUTT, SELECTMAN; KEITH R. LACASSE, SELECTMAN

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Fred Ventresco

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Cherry Palmisano

**GUESTS:** Tina Connor, Carl Knapp

**7:20 p.m. Chairman Clow called the meeting to order.**

**BOARD OF SELECTMAN BUDGET DISCUSSION** – Chairman Clow said they are working from two documents, one is the 2009 developing budget and the other is a default budget worksheet with comparisons. Chairman Clow the developing budget of \$4,667,202 equals \$5,000 less than on the worksheet default. Mrs. Tina Connor said she made some changes and it did not recalculate. Mrs. T. Connor said the bottom line 2009 default on the RSA default worksheet should be \$4,667,202. Chairman Clow asked Mrs. T. Connor if she knew where the difference was. Selectman Butt said there is a \$27,000 difference and asked if they need to make it match the RSA default worksheet. Chairman Clow said if they do then they have to go back through the budget. Selectman Kurk said take \$10,000 in overtime from Highway. Selectman Butt asked about the part time officer's line. Chairman Clow said they changed it to fit in the RSA guidelines. Mrs. T. Connor said the default on the RSA sheet \$is 1,213,532; she changed each departments line but the total did not recalculate, each individual line is ok it was just the bottom line. The difference between the 2 was the \$27,399. Selectman Butt said the police salary was changed to reflect the minimum increase in contract. Mrs. T. Connor said there was an increase because of the 10 holidays; doesn't think it was ever considered in past years. Chairman Clow asked why weren't the holidays in last years. Mrs. T. Connor said according to the calculations they could not have been, she did not calculate them last year. Mrs. T. Connor said whatever the difference, the staffing was different last year as well as rates of pay. Chairman Clow said they spent less than what was appropriated in the police salary full time officer's line. Mrs. T. Connor said you still have the week overlap that will hit that line; calculated at 52 weeks. Chairman Clow is looking for a place to save money without affecting those lines. Mrs. T. Connor said by reducing by what Chief Begin told her it saved \$10,000. Chairman Clow said even if some of that is not calculated in there is a \$9,000 difference just to bring it to the level of 2008, it seems like they would not go over \$471,200 which is what is available for 2008 and asked if everything except the last week has been calculated. Mrs. T. Connor said yes. It was discussed the police have 4/5 still left to deduct. Mrs. T. Connor said they have been working short an officer during the year and doesn't know how that effects or alters the line.

The Board discussed the police telephone line; police just changed their phone service. Base granite state telephone service is not increasing. Mrs. T. Connor said they have monitoring now done at south station (fire), which is an additional cost. Selectman Kurk mentioned line 750 under fire equipment maintenance (required testing). Mrs. T. Connor said they were asked to come back and split things up; the state requires testing on the hoses. Selectman Kurk thought they gave Mrs. T. Connor estimates of how much fuel they would be needed not what they used in 2008. Mr. Ventresco said they went over that when Ms. Sharon DeStefano was here before the Board. Mrs. T.

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Connor said the Fire Department had a whole sheet. Selectman Butt said wages for the Fire Department secretary went up \$2,000 for 2009. It was discussed this was due to the 2 additional hours, until March 31 she is 30 hours and then after that she will be 27 hours; this is not in the default budget. Mrs. T. Connor said for the default she is still working the 30 hours until March 31 but then calculated 25 hours for the rest of the year. Selectman Kurk said the Fire Department put anticipated gallons; South Station propane actual was 1,045 and anticipated \$1,500, Central Station 150 gallon difference and Sugar Hill oil is just under double. Selectman Kurk said the formula is calculated by actual gallons not anticipated gallons. Mr. Ventresco said sometimes it is hard to get an exact number for the year. Selectman Butt said there are 2 lines in the default number that he wants to reduce, the overtime for Highway from \$50,000 to \$40,000 and the other is the Highway salt number from \$200,000 to \$183,376 that equals the \$27,000 they need to save. Chairman Clow asked Selectman Butt if he was sure they should do that. Selectman Butt yes. Chairman Clow asked how many times they can change their minds. Selectman Butt said if the default is too high he is afraid they will be challenged. Selectman Butt feels the process they went through to get the default within a \$30,000 difference from the RSA guidelines is good.

Selectman Lacasse took \$5,000 away from the PARC part time director line and zeroed it out. Chairman Clow said you're taking from PARC and paying Highway which is an essential service. Selectman Butt said if they can recover from the salt line than they don't have to do anything. Selectman Butt said the last thing he wants to do is cut an employee. Selectman Butt said he just looked for 2 areas that they could change.

Making the 2 changes that Selectman Butt suggested gives them the \$27,399 so that both the RSA default and the town's default will be the same.

Chairman Clow said he hopes that some time they do pass the budget so they can change the default lines.

Selectman Butt said he is not trying to cut something just trying to put things in line. He is not saying that salt and overtime will be cut; they are just getting money from there.

Selectman Kurk said they never addressed the sign coming in to town from Goffstown. Selectman Kurk said Mr. Ventresco received an estimate for \$18,000. It was discussed the sign was shattered and is not salvageable. Chairman Clow said he is concerned with the signs holding up, the one from Henniker seemed to be coming apart. The sign on Rt. 77 was the newest one put up. Selectman Kurk mentioned putting in a line for signs/repairs in the budget. The town report states that the sign coming in from New Boston has been ordered but not paid for. Selectman Kurk said she was under the understanding the company was holding it but it never came. Chairman Clow said he suggests increasing the Economic Development from \$1,500 to \$1,800 to be able to use it for signs.

Mr. Ventresco spoke with Mr. Knapp and he said the pattern is already similar to last year for the salt and overtime line. Mr. Knapp said the state is not even cutting their salt budgets. Chairman Clow said they increased both the proposed and default for those lines. Mr. Ventresco said if you are using salt than most of the time the overtime and salt go hand and hand. Chairman Clow said the problem is the default bottom line issue. Selectman Kurk said she is not sure the number in the proposed budget is enough to replace the sign- she is saying in the proposed line not in the default. Chairman Clow said to make the proposed \$2,000 and signs and slogans but will not change the default line.

Ms. Donna Meuse said she needs a printer that is a copy machine; she has an equipment budget of \$500 that she has not used in years. Selectman Kurk said Ms. Meuse reduced her line by \$10,000. Ms. Meuse said no she did not, the Board did. Selectman Kurk asked how it came down by \$10,000. Mrs. T. Connor said by the usage over the past 3 years. Ms. Meuse said she did not know how much it was reduced and said she is nervous by how much the budget is being cut because it affects the amount of families she can help. The food pantry is open each Wednesday and services a couple hundred families. The food pantry is for temporary help and does not supply families with groceries for an entire month. Ms. Meuse said she is going to have to start writing food vouchers. The people she is starting to see are not the town poor; they are people who have lost their jobs. The town poor line is \$6,000 more than spent. She was under budget by \$6,500. Selectman Kurk said she has done a great job for the town holding the line and providing help. Chairman Clow said they need to determine if that is where they can be cutting because of

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the towns need. Selectman Kurk said they are aware that what needs to be spent for the poor is a requirement by law. Chairman Clow said it still has to come out of the budget. Ms. Meuse said this year is not the year to cut, considering she was under budget last year and said the proposed and the default should both be the same \$39,000. Chairman Clow said they are struggling with making up the default according to the strict interpretation of the RSA guidelines for default. Chairman Clow said if they were to return the \$10,000 to her line then they would have to take it out of someone else's budget. Chairman Clow said it will increase the bottom line of the budget by \$10,000. Selectman Butt said Ms. Meuse's default should be \$10,000 higher and said the difference between the operating and the default is not the issue. Selectman Lacasse said the bottom line default is now what it is. Ms. Meuse said maybe they can meet a compromise; she is worried about this year. Chairman Clow said on the default worksheet Mrs. T. Connor puts down the full amount of \$49,312 as what the RSA would allow but that whole number is figured out with the whole budget and if they change it there will be a \$10,000 difference. Chairman Clow said no one is disagreeing with Ms. Meuse. Selectman Lacasse asked what if they put it in the proposed and leave the default alone. It was discussed you have to pay for the poor by law. Chairman Clow said it really doesn't matter the amount, it is the same discussion. Selectman Lacasse said to drop the PARC Director to zero. Chairman Clow disagrees. Ms. Meuse is trying to put it into perspective about a budget of \$39,000 not lasting long; that will only help 30-40 families pay rent. Selectman Kurk is concerned with the budget in fact being \$39,000, if more than that is spent and if they don't get a proposed budget passed, what will happen next year with Ms. Meuse's budget if it is taken down to \$20,000 than next year it will be \$20,000. Ms. Meuse said she is averaging 4-8 phone calls for assistance per day. Chairman Clow said speaking for himself he does not have a problem making it the \$30,000 that it was so it is not cut in future years and having the default go over by that \$10,000. He thinks they would be foolish to not think they are in desperate times. Selectman Butt understands the need and they will be putting the money back in her budget. Chairman Clow said he will recommend putting it back in

It was discussed that \$4,639,803 is the current default and matches the RSA default. Selectman Butt said why can't they make the RSA default \$4,649,803 to add the 10,000 back in? Mrs. T. Connor said the default budget calculated by RSA is \$4,639,803 which is what is on her worksheet. Selectman Butt does not see any adjustments putting Welfare to \$20,000 it is \$49,312 in the bottom line. Mrs. T. Connor said because that is what that department could have according to the RSA but it was absorbed somewhere else where you needed to make up the money. Mrs. T. Connor said you have to remember in the fire line they just put in \$9,900 for fire ambulance fees which has to be raised and appropriated but there is revenue for that line. Selectman Kurk asked when setting the tax rate do they include it. Mrs. T. Connor said yes they add it in, but then subtract it through the revenue sheet (will not effect the bottom line). Mrs. T. Connor said you can petition DRA for financial assistance. Chairman Clow said yes and no, but he feels uncomfortable cutting it knowing the situation they are in and then going to DRA and asking for emergency expenditure. Mr. Ventresco said DRA makes you find it somewhere else in your budget, not necessarily allow you to take it out of surplus. Selectman Lacasse said there are other things that can be cut back in PARC. Selectman Kurk said it certainly is not necessary services and these are hard times. Selectman Kurk said you can take the \$1,500 from Economic Development. Selectman Butt said they are looking for \$10,000 in the budget; therefore subtract a certain % out of every budget. Chairman Clow said they should allow the \$10,000 difference in the default and give an explanation. Chairman Clow said if they are challenged then they will have to fall back on the reasoning. Selectman Lacasse said the explanation he is fine with but the bottom line should be what the RSA states. Selectman Butt mentioned the fuel line and asked Selectman Lacasse if he agreed. Chairman Clow said that door was open because Selectman Kurk sought out legal advice for calculations on fuel from LGC. Chairman Clow said they have done other similar things and mentioned that they need tires. Selectman Kurk said the formula specifically relied on what was used last year. Selectman Butt would like to see a written decision from LGC about the fuel. Selectman Butt is sure she does not have a written decision and said it is causing a lot of problems in the default number. Chairman Clow said if they are over \$10,000 it is not in Welfare because that line balances out, it will be in the individual decisions they have made throughout the budget.

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Chairman Clow said they called DRA for advice on whether something can go in the default, but DRA won't give an answer, they say use discretion. Selectman Lacasse said they were honest with the process they have taken but at the end of the day the bottom line to him is the bottom line they are allowed by law. Selectman Butt said it states obligations and the Selectman have the obligation; Welfare and providing rent to those in need is an obligation, providing maintenance and associated costs in Highway, Police and Fire is an obligation. Mrs. T. Connor said in the police budget the default part time officer wages put it back up to the \$93,050 and by the time Chief Begin goes out and does the hiring process it will probably take some time to get that to happen so why not drop it to \$80,000. Chairman Clow said the reality is looking at overtime and the part time officer's line and if it was kept the same as last year to keep the money in there is because they know the overtime need. Mrs. T. Connor said that will also have an effect on the calculations she did regarding NH Retirement and will also have to cushion the overtime. Mr. Ventresco asked if they are obligated to take care of the poor what is the difference between being obligated to the copier lease. Selectman Kurk asked what default is right now. Mrs. T. Connor said if you put the \$30,000 back in for financial assistance in it brings the default to \$4,649,803. Selectman Butt said they are looking at less than a 3% increase. Mrs. T. Connor said the default at \$4,649,803 is 2.79% above this year. Mrs. T. Connor said the proposed compared to this years budget is up 5.59% and 2.9% difference between the 09 proposed and the 09 default. Selectman Butt said they are not going to talk about the default at the Deliberative Session and after having discussions than they can change the default number if there is new information brought forward. Chairman Clow said they have 2 people willing to see that as the default number and 2 that are not. Selectman Kurk said she agrees they need the money but it shouldn't be increased by that amount. Selectman Butt said he does not know what else will be added to the discussion that would change anyone's mind. Selectman Butt does mind having a split vote but wants to see agreement from all with the operating budget.

Selectman Butt said they are forced to take cuts, drastic cuts to get to the level where they feel comfortable. Selectman But said the overtime is going to happen, it has, and it will, they have no control but need to accommodate it in the budget. Selectman Butt said it is getting to the point where they cannot cut anymore. Mr. Knapp said unless they cut staffing there is nothing else in his budget that can be cut. Mr. Knapp said the salt line is up only because the difference in the price not the amount; \$30,000 difference in the price from last year with a signed contract. Mr. Knapp said the state of NH has said they will not compromise on their winter maintenance. Selectman Lacasse said if they would have taken the strict guideline for a default budget than Mr. Knapp's departments default would have been lower than what they have actually built.

Mr. Knapp said his default budget for overtime was \$55,000 a couple of years ago and it got cut down to \$40,000; they spent \$65,000 last year. Mr. Knapp said he does try not to spend to hope to have enough money left for the end of the year. Mr. Knapp told the Board a July to July budget would benefit them.

Chairman Clow said then can leave it for Saturday morning and hope they have 5 members and they can vote on a decision. Chairman Clow said they keep changing things based on who is here on a given time. Some lines they have already said this is what it is going to be. Selectman Butt said you can look at that law and said he thinks when the WMS was built there was a discussion about maintenance in the default and the lawyer said people said when they voted for the school they voted to have the school maintained so they increased the default. Selectman Kurk said she will call legal tomorrow.

Mr. Knapp said he will do the best he can but he guarantees that those 2 lines will be overspent.

Mrs. T. Connor said if they get a default she would like to see the journal entries done to prove their history, because that is the only way to bring some of the lines up that have been cut in prior years. Selectman Butt said during the course of the year if they see the overtime line in Highway or the salt line being overspent they will have tough decisions to make. Mr. Knapp said they can't wait until November to make a decision. Chairman Clow said they told every department not to spend. Selectman Butt feels it is easier for some departments not to spend than others and some departments choose not to spend. Chairman Clow said another way to solve this tonight and not wait for Saturday is to put the money back in the proposed for Welfare but not in the default and then if they are

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overspent they will have to find it throughout the year. Chairman Clow said it locks in the lower default number. Chairman Clow said by the time they find out about the budget Mr. Knapp will know where he stands for salt. Mr. Knapp said yes, but he still has to worry about November and December. Mr. Knapp said they sign a contract for the dollar amount in the line and the Board did approve the contract to Granite State Minerals. Chairman Clow asked what happened in the past when they didn't need everything that was contracted. Mr. Knapp said that has never happened; they have always needed more. Mr. Knapp said they bought salt in December and used it in December. Chairman Clow said Mr. Knapp did give them a new twist that the salt is a contractual obligation. Selectman Kurk said the bottom line that Mrs. T. Connor gave them has the contracted amount, they are just trying to change the bottom line. Selectman Butt said it did but that does not mean they are not going to fund it, it was easier to take from those 2 lines instead of looking through the whole budget. Selectman Kurk asked about fuel usage as well. Mr. Knapp said to be cautious about that line because money came back into that line because of the bridge project. Chairman Clow asked Mrs. T. Connor if she left the entire amount in the default for salt. She said yes because it as a contractual obligation. Selectman Butt said from an accounting standpoint they took \$20,000 from salt and highway overtime; they will move money around to adjust it.

The Board discussed that the net assessed value did not change; \$921,413,000 and the school used this number too. Chairman Clow said this is to the taxpayer's advantage. Selectman Butt said revenues increased by \$100,000 from last year.

Selectman Butt commented on the revenue from the motor vehicles not looking right. Selectman Kurk asked about misc Town Clerk fees. Mrs. T. Connor said some are UCC filing fees and it needs to be broken out. Selectman Kurk said another windfall was from the Everett Dam and Abijiah Bridge project. Mr. Knapp said they will get more from the Abijiah Bridge project after inspection in the spring. Chairman Clow said back in the fall of 2007 when they were looking at estimated revenues and setting the tax rate it skews the number because they weren't thinking about the bridge project reimbursement. Selectman Kurk said she was surprised the SRO reimbursement was only \$18,000 she thought it was 70%. Mrs. T. Connor said they recognize a portion of it and the rest of it comes in June (they get the check in June so it would be on next years).

**BOARD OF SELECTMAN DISCUSSION ON WARRANT ARTICLES** – It was discussed that the Highway garage will have a different number tomorrow. Mr. Ventresco said they might have to wait until the public hearing before changing the number.

Chairman Clow said the operating budget will change slightly. Selectman Kurk said she was not there when they discussed Article 11 CIP amounts for Capital Reserve Funds.

Selectman Butt said they need to decide what needs to be done to protect access to Bolton Field if the gates were left open. The Board discussed putting \$18,000 in the Recreation Development and Improvement Fund to provide security on the field and question whether the Conservation Commission will be contributing towards this access cost. The Board recommends.

*Article 12 - Government Buildings and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.* Selectman Butt said when he first looked at this article he made a list to identify the projects and what was appropriated in 2008. The individual items that make up the \$110,000 were submitted by the Building Committee. Selectman Butt said the actual expenditures were \$66,818, which means they spent \$43,000 less than the initial request. Selectman Butt listed the following projects:

- Stone Building: The only thing they did not do was paint ornate trim. Total \$26,900 for 2009 request which equals a positive balance for this project of \$16,282.
- Clinton Grove: Appropriated \$28,000. 2009 request is \$15,000 = they need \$43,000 this year for Clinton Grove
- Town Hall: Appropriated \$25,000. 2009 request is \$20,000-\$45,000 = they need \$17,650-\$42,650 this year depending upon the situation with the doors.
- Library: Appropriated \$18,500. 2009 request is \$9,500 = they need \$24,500.

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Selectman Butt carried over the following projects that were not done in 2008:

- Horse Shed: Appropriated \$8,000 = they need \$8,000.
- Gazebo: \$12,000 = still a \$12,000 request.
- Safety Complex: \$0 appropriated. 2009 request is \$20,500 = they need \$20,500.
- Town Office: \$40,000 appropriated. 2009 request is \$70,500 = they need \$85,500 (weatherization).

Selectman Butt said he put all this together to come up with a total amount needed, which is \$172,818 (includes new doors) then taking into account the savings on the Stone Building = \$156,536 request for repairs, then \$85,650 from the Mildred Hall Fund for repairs to Town Hall and Clinton Grove leaving a \$70,886 request.

The current balance in the Government Building and Maintenance Fund is \$198,345. Chairman Clow asked about the electrical work at the Highway garage. Mr. Ventresco said it was done and there is \$5,000 still outstanding for electrical in Highway garage. Chairman Clow said the major work was the electrical and the other thing is the ventilation. Selectman Butt said if the bond does not pass for the Highway garage they might have to utilize this fund. Selectman Butt said the intent was to get enough money in the fund to be able to do repair work.

Selectman Butt wants to see what they can accomplish this year; he does not want to raise and appropriate for things that they cannot do in a given year. Selectman Kurk said they should tell the Library to get the weatherization done. Selectman Butt recommends not to put Article 12 on the warrant. The Board discussed prioritizing.

*Article 13* - \$60,000 for equipment to grind up brush at transfer station. The Board recommends.

*Article 14* - \$300,000 for constructing a rear handicapped assessable entrance with elevator into the Town Office Building. The Board discussed the need to expand the definition of the Government Building Maintenance Fund to cover engineering fees. Selectman Butt said without using the Mildred Hall money there is \$30,000-\$40,000 in the fund. The Board agreed to remove Article 14.

*Article 15* - \$400,000 for Road Reconstruction with \$247,752 being received from Highway Block Grant leaving \$152,248 to be raised from taxation. The Board recommends.

*Article 16* - \$6,000 Household Hazardous Waste Collection; this is not a requirement. The Board discussed this could be in the operating budget. Chairman Clow said if it was worded to say if passed it would be part of the operating budget which would allow them to be able to include it in the default budget as well. Selectman Lacasse likes it in its separate article because it always passes. Mr. Knapp is not in favor of putting it in the operating budget. The Board agreed to add the wording to add it into the operating budget.

*Article 17* - \$20,000 Cemetery Trust Funds CY Pres Account. The Board recommends.

*Article 18* - \$57,152 to cover the hiring of two new positions for the Fire/Ambulance Department. Selectman Kurk thought the intent was to have someone at the station M-F full time. Mr. Ventresco said the specific wording will be in the job description.

*Article 19* - \$460,000 for purchasing a new fire truck. This has gone through the CIP process. Selectman Butt does not want to question what the Fire Department needs.

*Article 20* - \$52,926 to serve as a pool of funds for employee raises. The Police Chief wants to be included in this article and Carl Knapp is included at 5%. The article also includes Highway Department personnel. Mrs. T. Connor said this is a pool based on 5% increases. The Board discussed they need to determine the Police Chief's increase.

*Article 21* - The Board agreed to remove Article 14.

*Article 22* - \$30,000 to be placed in the already existing Employee Retirement Capital Reserve Fund; this was requested last year.

*Article 23* - \$7,000 for Patriotic Celebration Fireworks. The Board recommends.

*Article 24* - To create an expendable trust fund to be known as the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund for Weare, NH, for the purpose of holding an anniversary celebration in the year 2014 and to raise and appropriate \$6,000. Selectman Butt does not think taxpayers should have to pay for something like this and feels residents should raise the money

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through fundraising, grassroots effort and then any shortfalls can be requested through the taxpayers. Selectman Butt feels a committee should be formed and would like to see the plan of what is needed before any funds are requested. Selectman Kurk does not agree with the grassroots effort, does agree with the formation of a committee and needing a plan. Selectman Lacasse agrees with needing a plan. The Board agreed to remove this article. Selectman Kurk would like this discussion put on the agenda in the very near future.

Selectman Butt said there is a centennial fund that was established by CIP started in 1986 with \$7,000 in a non expendable trust fund.

*Article 25* – To establish a revolving fund for the purpose of providing cable access for public, educational or governmental use with 33% received from the cable franchise fees deposited into the fund. The Board discussed that the Cable Committee asked for a part-time manager. Selectman Kurk suggests the 33% be changed to \$15,000 and that the wording read that such funds could only be expended for such reasons as the fund was intended which would be to pay a part time manager. Selectman Lacasse asked if they should make this a regular warrant article to make this a regular position and state the cable franchise fees will cover the cost. Selectman Butt said the 2 revolving funds that they have (Highway and Police) are designed to have a zero impact because the revenue would offset it. Selectman Butt said they are not creating this revolving fund to save the town money; it will cost the town money because this is an additional expense. It was discussed that the Cable Franchise fee is from Comcast customers only. Selectman Butt said Channel 6 doesn't due anything to enhance the cable and thinks hiring someone for this position would be a waste of money at this point in time. Selectman Kurk said they no longer have the volunteers to operate the cable access channel. Selectman Butt feels this is a waste; the money spent on the equipment was a waste. Chairman Clow and Selectman Kurk said it is because there is no one to run the equipment. Chairman Clow feels they need to have the consistency of someone who knows how to operate the equipment. Selectman Butt said they should invest in the Town's website. Selectman Butt asked why that can't have someone (Merry Rice) put the tape in to re-run the Selectmen's meetings on the cable access channel. DRA suggested the wording for this article. Selectman Lacasse mentioned how the Cable Committee came before them and put forward 3 different options for the hiring of a part time manager. The Board discussed the need for an IT person for the website, service on town's computers and the cable access. Selectman Butt would only support the article if it included an IT person. The Board agrees to the following for the article – *To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$7,500 in 2009 and then thereafter \$15,000 to fund a part-time communication manager's position with said funds to come from the Cable Franchise Fee.* Selectman Butt would like to see \$20,000. The Board agreed it will state \$10,000 for the first 6 months

*Article 26* – to rescind the Town of Weare Earth Products Ordinance originally adopted at the 1972 annual town meeting. The Board decided they will explain this article in the town mailer.

\$35,000 Town Buildings Needs Assessment – The Board needs to discuss.

The Board said they still need to redefine the Government Building and Maintenance Fund.

Mr. Ventresco said he sent the warrant to DRA and they said the Board should only be recommending Special Warrant Articles. Mr. Ventresco said the attorney said the Board can recommend but also said that DRA does not suggest it. The attorney also recommends not putting Anticipated Tax Impact on the warrant. The Board can recommend petition articles. Chairman Clow said if they left the tax impact off the articles the town would think they were hiding something.

Chairman Clow discussed the article recommended from the attorney about including numerical tally's of any voter be printed in the town warrant next to the affected warrant article. Selectman Lacasse likes the idea. Selectman Kurk does not like the idea.

Chairman Clow mentioned the police collective bargaining agreement article – To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost item included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and AFSCME Local 3657 Police Department Employees which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels: TBD

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It was discussed an article to call one special meeting for the collective bargaining agreement cost items only should be included in the warrant if the article is defeated. This is included in the school's warrant but has not been on the towns. It would give the option to go back and renegotiate. Selectman Lacasse does not want to include this. It was discussed the article would give the option to renegotiate within the same year. Selectman Butt thinks they should include this. Chairman Clow said they should. Selectman Kurk thinks that this would weaken the article. The Board agreed not to include this article. Selectman Butt feels not including this article weakens their relations with the police department because there are no other options until the next year.

The Board discussed the redefinition of the Finance Committee ordinance. Chairman Clow would not want to go any lower than 9-13 members with a quorum of no less than 5. Selectman Butt feels they should have 11-13 members with a quorum no less than 6. Mr. Ventresco feels it means to pick a number within the range. Selectman Kurk feels bringing it down to 11 members is reasonable. The Board agrees.

Chairman Clow would like to see the police union article appear at the beginning of the warrant, before the Fire Department Article.

Mrs. T. Connor mentioned how the Board asks the departments to get their budgets in for October and stated that the Board needs to ask committees to get their articles in sooner.

Chairman Clow said they need to discuss the employee raises article in non public.

Selectman Kurk said they should advertise the Deliberative Session on the Town Hall Board. Monday, January 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. with be the bond hearing and 7:30 the budget hearing.

**Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to enter into non public session @ 11:20 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Butt – yes; Selectman Kurk – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes Passed 5-0-0**

**Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Lacasse seconded to come out of non public session @ 12:00 a.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Butt – yes; Selectman Kurk – yes; Selectman Lacasse – yes; Chairman Clow – yes Passed 5-0-0**

## CORRESPONDENCE

**Motion to adjourn at 12:05 a.m.**

## ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

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Cherry Palmisano, Recording Secretary